

Attorney Docket No.: UT-0030
Inventors: Rao et al.
Serial No.: 09/736,728
Filing Date: December 14, 2000
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This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the claims:

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (previously presented): A method of obtaining glial cells comprising:

- (a) isolating glial restricted precursor cells from central nervous system tissue by negative immunoselection of E-NCAM positive cells followed by positive immunoselection with an A2B5 antibody, said glial restricted precursor cells being immunonegative for PDGF- α receptor, PDGF- β receptor, and Ran-2 antigen, not labeled with R24 anti-GD3 antibody, and immunopositive for A2B5 antigen; and
- (b) plating said isolated glial restricted precursor cells of step (a) under differentiating conditions, thereby causing said isolated glial restricted precursor cells to differentiate into glial cells.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 13 wherein said differentiating conditions comprise addition to growth medium of an effective amount of a ~~factor~~ fetal calf serum that promotes differentiation into non-process bearing A2B5-GFAP⁺ astrocytes and said glial cells are A2B5-GFAP⁺ astrocytes.

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Claim 15: (canceled)

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method of claim 13 wherein said differentiating conditions comprise addition to growth medium of an effective amount of ~~a factor~~ ciliary neurotrophic factor and basic fibroblast growth factor that promotes differentiation into process bearing A2B5⁺GFAP⁺ astrocytes and said glial cells are A2B5⁺GFAP⁺ astrocytes.

Claim 17: (canceled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): The method of claim 13 wherein said differentiating conditions comprise addition to growth medium of an effective amount of ~~a factor~~ platelet-derived growth factor and thyroid hormone (T3) that promotes differentiation into oligodendrocytes and said glial cells are oligodendrocytes.

Claims 19-48 (canceled)

Claim 49 (previously presented): A method for continuously propagating glial restricted precursor cells immunonegative for PDGF- α receptor, PDGF- β receptor, and Ran-2 antigen, not labeled with R24 anti-GD3 antibody, and immunopositive for A2B5 antigen comprising the steps of:

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(a) isolating glial restricted precursor cells from central nervous system tissue by negative immunoselection of E-NCAM positive cells followed by positive immunoselection with an A2B5 antibody, said glial restricted precursor cells being immunonegative for PDGF- α receptor, PDGF- β receptor, and Ran-2 antigen, not labeled with R24 anti-GD3 antibody, and immunopositive for A2B5 antigen; and

(b) culturing said isolated glial restricted precursor cells of step (a) *in vitro* in the presence of minimal essential salts and effective amounts of platelet derived growth factor and fibroblast growth factor.